Examiner's Amendment

PENDING CLAIMS AS AMENDED

Please amend the claims as follows:

Please cancel all claims on file, and substitute the new claims 35-37 for examination and allowance.

Claims 1 – 34 (Cancelled)

35. (New)   A method for a communication system, comprising:

determining ~~an available~~ *a* number of *available* fingers in a receiver of said communication system, based on at least one of:

    a) lock or unlock condition of said fingers,

    b) a time period of lock or unlock condition of said fingers,

    c) a combine or un-combine condition of said fingers,

    d) a time period of combine or un-combine condition of said fingers, and

    e) an assign or un-assign condition of said fingers;

adjusting a pilot signal energy search window threshold based on said ~~available~~ number of *available* fingers, thereby allowing availability of a different number of fingers for processing received signals by changing condition of one of said fingers as determined in at least one of (a)-(e).

36. (New)   The method as recited in claim 35 further comprising:

accepting or denying processing of a received signal based on whether a correlation energy of a received pilot signal meets said adjusted pilot signal energy search window threshold, wherein said received signal is associated with said pilot signal.

37. (New)   The method as recited in claim 35 further comprising:

determining at least one of Active set, Candidate set, and Neighbor set of base stations in said communication system, wherein each set identifies at least one base